

REMARKSStatus of Claims

Claims 1-21 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-9, 1, and 13-20 stand rejected. By this amendments claims 1, 10, 11, 18 and 19-21 have been amended (see description of amendments below).

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Rejection of Claims 1-9, 11 and 13-20 under 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 1-9, 11 and 13-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirchmeyer et al., (US 5,811,480), as applied in previous Office Actions, in view of Piret (6,025,073).

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 11, 18 and 20 to claim a “polyamide film former”. This limitation was previously claimed in allowable claims 10, 12 and 21. By this amendment, Applicants have deleted this limitation from claims 10, 12 and 21 to omit redundancy.

Nowhere do Kirchmeyer et al. or Piret teach or suggest a polyamide film former. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be made as neither of the references, either alone or combined, teach all of Applicants' claim limitations, specifically, a polyamide film former.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-9, 11 and 13-20 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

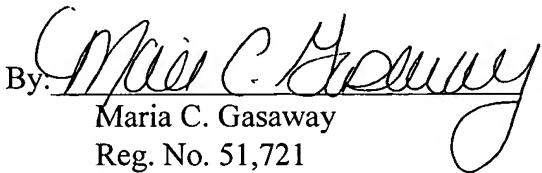
In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 1-21 at an early date is solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' undersigned agent at (740) 321-7213 if any unresolved matters remain.

If any questions should arise with respect to the above Remarks, or if the Examiner has any comments or suggestions to place the claims in better condition for allowance, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' agent at the number listed below.

Applicant authorizes any fees required pertaining to this response be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Maria C. Gasaway  
Reg. No. 51,721

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Owens Corning  
2790 Columbus Road, Bldg. 11  
Granville, OH 43023  
(740) 321-7213